



# 感恩与代祷 Praise & Prayer

福音自傳會

Christian Nationals' Evangelism Commission

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MICA(P)No.: 003/08/2013

3rd Quarter 2013

## Mission Possible

Rev James Lai

**T**he Lord's Great Commission is a possible mission, as it is a mission within a specific time, with a target as well. The target is reached when all nations have become disciples of Jesus Christ. The deadline is when the world comes to an end. In order to fulfill this Great Commission, before the next coming of Christ, all churches must take the lead to preach the gospel to all nations and peoples. To-date, the gospel has been spread to all countries; however, the Good News has not reached every tribe in every nation! Personally, I believe that the adoption of unreached people groups (UPG) is the most effective strategy to reach out to the whole world. I want to urge all churches to come join hands with us, to adopt and bring the unreached people groups to Christ! If every church is doing so, then the target could be reached swiftly.

### Adoption of UPG is a Strategy based on Bible teaching

The Bible has instructed us to preach the gospel to all nations. In **Galatian 3:8**, ".....**All nations will be blessed through you.**" This is a bible verse with geographical concept and so does **Acts 1:8**, "**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**" Then the Lord commanded in the Great Commission before ascending to heaven, in **Matthew 28:19-20**, "**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**" as well as in **Matthew 24:14**, "**And**

**this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.**"- "all nations" in these verses refer to the tribes. It is clear that the Lord has commanded us to spread the gospel to peoples besides the Jews. Revelation 7:9 has also stated that our Lord Jesus will only come again after the gospel has been preached to every nation, tribe, people and language; therefore let us seize every moment to bring the gospel to every tribe in every corner of every country!

### Adoption of UPG is a focussed strategy

We are not only concerned about whether our own people have heard of the gospel; rather we should also find the hidden unreached people groups - who and where they are, and what tribes they belong to. In areas of South East Asia, there are many unreached people groups living in remote mountains. They live in poverty, they are far behind any technology, and they are even side-lined by the authorities. It is also very difficult to reach them. They are being called "the marginalized people" by the country. No one seemed concerned enough to care about them. However, they need the most help from us, so we should intentionally seek them out and share the good news to them. Yes, spreading the gospel is everyone's responsibility and the gospel should reach out in all directions. Once we have a target people group, we can then start to plan how we should reach out to them in order to bring them to Christ. Adoption of UPG is a strategy with a specific direction which can be followed accordingly.

A suitable strategy is very important. A strategy should be used in order to help us to adopt, assist, reach out and to build churches among the UPGs. Firstly, we need to understand



their thinking, then their language, as well as their way of life. The strategy should be flexible enough to suit the people group we are reaching out to. But whatever strategy we use, the gospel of salvation that we preach must remain unchanged. We should also be alert to God's leading, especially where and when God has opened a door for us.

The strategy CNEC use for the adoption of UPG is similar to that of a Chinese chess game called "Wei Qi". That is to say, the UPG in which we are reaching out to is not an isolated group. The targeted group should be reachable by other people groups who are near them. Through the networking among these different groups, the gospel is extended from the reached groups to the unreached.



### Adoption of UPG entails responsibility

Adopting churches are like parents adopting children. It requires a considerable amount of duty and responsibility to bring up a child from infant stage to adulthood, when he becomes independent and is able to support himself. Besides responsibility, it is also being mission-minded. The adoption strategy is one of the attainable goals that contribute to the fulfillment of the Lord's Great Commission.

### Adoption of UPG involves participation

Adoption of UPG also prompts believers to develop the mind-set for Missions' involvement. Since the church has become the adopting parents, it will treat the adopted people group as one of their own children (ministries). Subsequently, the ministry will involve more believers. The ministry also needs much prayer, caring and teamwork from church members before fruits can be seen among the UPG.

### Adoption of UPG has a historical value

Adoption of UPG is reaching out to a group of people who has not heard of the gospel. Therefore, the adopting church not only helps the UPG to build their first church, they also help them to write the very first page of their church history! It is a ministry which has a historical value. During the first half of the twentieth century, God has sent a British missionary from

China Inland Mission, Rev James Fraser to mainland China to serve among the Lisu people group. Rev Fraser served at the northwest part of Yunnan Province for more than thirty years. Fraser was known for having invented the Lisu phonetic and had completed the translation of the whole New Testament before he passed away. During his lifetime, Rev Fraser was not only busy spreading the gospel to reach the Lisu people group, he had also equipped believers by teaching them to read the Bible (family by family, or for the whole village). Rev Fraser also encouraged the Lisu believers to purchase books, build their own churches and support their own pastors. All these practices had indeed helped the Lisu churches to be steadfast during the persecution periods that followed. The Lisu churches did not stop their ministries even though they had lost all their support from the foreigners. To-date, the Lisu people are no longer an Unreached group and Rev Fraser should receive most of the credit!

### Adoption of UPG has an eschatological concept

We are now entering the end-times as we are expecting the coming of our Lord Jesus. Thus, from that perspective, the time which the Great Commission refers to is in the near future. Satan is aware that he has very little time left, so he is fighting against God and His believers more furiously. The devil is seeking to ensure that the sleeping ones remain, hoping that they remain in their hibernation forever. On the other hand, he battles more intensely against those who are awake day and night. From the perspective of the end-times, we should work diligently and urgently to win more souls for God. Only when all nations have heard the gospel, then Jesus will come! **"As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work."** (John 9:4)

### Adoption of UPG is making the mission possible

Many Christians believe that evangelising the world is an endless task. However, we trust in the word of God that His Great Commission will be fulfilled in due time.

**Therefore, it is mission possible and not mission impossible.**

Dear brothers and sisters, I sincerely invite you to come and join us to reach out to the unreached people groups and together we can pray along and say, "Truly, Lord Jesus, you are coming soon. Amen!"



## Entering The Promised Land--Philemon Plantation

Rev Paul Chang

On the 19th of June, the Philemon Plantation, a new ministry in Cambodia, had its ground breaking ceremony. I thank God that as an 80-year-old, I was able to make my way from Singapore to Phra Vihear to help conduct the dedication service of the 100-hectares land. Though the journey was long and tiring, and only a few people came to witness the event, it was nonetheless a solemn and sacred moment. My heart was stirred by the wondrous work of God and filled with awe and thanksgiving to Him. To God be the Glory!



### Plantation Vision

As early as 2008, God gave us the vision for a "plantation" to build on the foundation of the existing Dormitory Ministry. Its aim is to improve the lives of the poor villagers by providing them with opportunities to cultivate and grow crops on barren land. This is in line with CNEC's mission statement, which is to build indigenous churches in the most remote and least Christianized areas, and empowering them to be self-supporting, self-governing and self-propagating through a holistic approach of winning, nurturing, equipping and sending the nationals.

Thank God for this piece of land, which will be turned into a pepper plantation. This land is to be used to fulfill God's Great Commission and bring glory to His Name! The long-awaited hope is now in the process of materializing!

**"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."** (Matthew 28:19-20)

### Reaching Out

Before we were given the vision for a plantation, God was already at work. First, He raised up a good team of young Christian leaders from the Dormitory Ministry, which provides accommodation to university students in Phnom Penh. Moved by the Spirit of God, they were eager to take the gospel to the unreached people groups. Fruits were reaped in their outreach to the Kuys who lived in the remote mountainous areas.

The Kuys are kind-hearted folks who live a simple life. Hardship on the mountains has trained them up to be resilient and hardworking. They are said to be embodying the characteristics of a bull. From their background as farmers and wood-cutter, we know they are God-sent to work with us in this plantation. He is indeed amazing in His work!

### Reaching the unreached

Consequently, locating the Kuy people has become our priority. Praise God that the first-fruits of the Gospel from

among the Kuys have taken on the role of "men of peace". Through them, we learnt that there are Kuys living in some 70 villages in the area! Through their help, we are making connection with these people!

'Project Gospel Ox-cart' is a good strategy we have adopted to reach the Kuys. As the Kuys have the practice of using ox-carts to transport their crops, our co-workers will take the opportunity to accompany the drivers in their long journeys. They would listen with them the Gospel of John in Khmer language and answering any query that arises. Praise the Lord! Many Kuys have come to understand the meaning of salvation and believe in Jesus through this process. Today, the Kuys are willing to publicly confess their belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. Among the 8 villages that we worked in, a total of 83 Kuys have been converted.

### The Holistic Gospel

When the Kuys turn to the Lord, it is also the beginning of God's blessing to the people. Because of their living conditions, God has impressed upon us the vision to help end poverty in their midst. We are propelled to turn the wasteland into a plantation, and the Philemon Plantation will be a blessing for the Kuys! For this reason, an agriculturist from Singapore has gone to train the national co-workers in Cambodia on farming techniques. The national co-workers will in turn train the Kuys.

Apart from providing jobs in the plantation to improve the livelihood of the Kuys, it is also our mandate to teach them the Word of God. Through God's Word, they come to know the meaning and hope in life in the Lord, and were grounded in the Truth to grow in their faith. In response to the Kuys' queries about the spiritual world, we have sent a pastor who is an expert in this topic into their midst to teach and explain to them about spiritual warfare and prayer of deliverance. Today, our co-workers are working hard on equipping the Kuy Christians to become the Lord's disciples and "spokesperson" for the gospel, and share the good news with their own people, even with the unreached people groups.

To achieve this goal, a Mission Center was set up in a village with a concentration of Kuys. It is the Church of God where the Kuy Christians are able to come together to worship God, receive training and be equipped. A corner was also created in the Mission Centre for the Kuy children that they may grow in the Word of God.

### Sponsor-A-Child

The Kuy children have been deprived of formal education due to poverty. To end the vicious cycle, we are in the process of implementing the SAC program so that the Kuy children of this generation will be able to go to school. May God touch your heart to want to help these children. If you are willing to sponsor a child through our Sponsorship Programme, please let us know.

Last but not least, do uphold the Philemon Plantation Ministry in your prayers. May God's work prevail in this ministry. May our partnership with the Kuy on this land bring joy and comfort to many desolate hearts. May the grace and blessings of God raise up many more workers so that we can accomplish greater things for Him. We cherish and value your partnership.



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## 14 Days Jordan/Israel Tour 30<sup>th</sup> Nov – 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013



### Registration Form

Full Name		Contact No.	
Nationality		Sex	Male / Female
Date of Birth		Email	
Home Address			

Package Fee : S\$4,800

Includes : Airfare, Accommodation, Local Transport, Admission Fee to Places of Visit, Visa, Airport taxes, Tips & Travel Insurance.

Excludes : Personal Expenses & additional charge for Single Occupancy S\$900

Deposit : S\$1,000 upon registration Balance by 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013

Please make Cheque payable to **CNEC International Ltd**

Please submit registration with a photocopy of your passport.

For enquiries, please contact: Mr Richard Teo (65) 9790 3268 or email to: [ricteo@cneintl.org](mailto:ricteo@cneintl.org)  
 CNEC International reserves the right to cancel trip if the min. of participants is not met. Min 15 pax

**MINISTRIES:INDIGENOUS CHURCH,BIBLE SCHOOL,TRIBAL WORKS,SPONSOR-A-CHILD MINISTRY,CREATIVE ACCESS MINISTRY,HOLISTIC MISSIONS**

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*All funds received are to support CNEC ministries; the operation cost is not more than 20% to sustain the office for ministries' purposes.*